DATE 3/18/2013

Laurel Rod & Gun Club comment on HB-376 House Fish, Wildlife & Parks Committee February 12, 2013 Room 152

HB-376, Revising laws on restriction of wildlife by local governments. Laurel Rod & Gun Club wants to go on record as Opposing this piece of Legislation.

- Montana already has a trustee of our publicly owned fish & wildlife resources, that public trustee is MTFWP & the FWP Commission.
- Fish & Wildlife resources belong to the people of Montana as a whole, not to be separated from that central trustee (FWP) by any state or local entity.
- If this Legislation were law Montana could potentially have at a minimum of 56 different bodies making wildlife laws and potentially having hundreds of local entities making rules and laws concerning wildlife, seems very cumbersome to us.
- This piece of Legislation somehow carries with it "a wolf element", this bill
 appears to show the extremism of various areas of Montana that are always
 spewing vitriol regarding our wolf laws and how we control wolves. We
 believe if this were the law of the State all wolves would be exterminated
 placing them back on the endangered species list-a move Montana doesn't
 need or want.
- This bill is very troubling to us, it is a very bad piece of Legislation.
- Once again, Laurel Rod & Gun Club Opposes this bill.

Laurel Rod & Gun Club

JW Westman